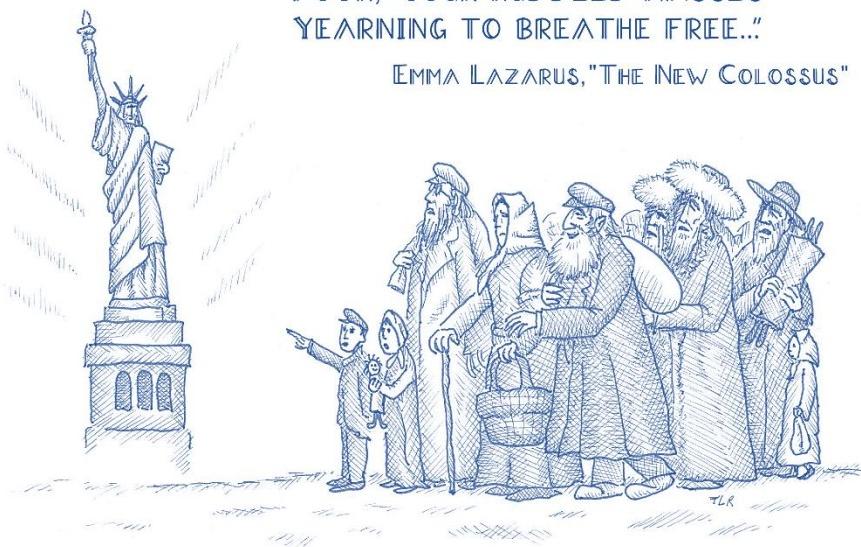


ISRAEL AND THE NATIONS

"GIVE ME YOUR TIRED, YOUR
POOR, YOUR HUDDLED MASSES
YEARNING TO BREATHE FREE..."

EMMA LAZARUS, "THE NEW COLOSSUS"



"And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."—Genesis 12:3 (KJV)

Valley Grace Brethren Church of Armagh
January the 14th, AD 2024

The LORD'S Day

The Fourteenth Day of January, *in the Year of our Lord 2024*

Welcome to the worship services of Valley Grace Brethren Church!



Sunday School—9:30 AM.



“We declare on scriptural authority that the human will is so desperately set on mischief, so depraved, so inclined to everything that is evil, and so disinclined to everything that is good, that without the powerful, supernatural, irresistible influence of the Holy Spirit, no human will ever be constrained toward Christ.”

—Charles Haddon Spurgeon

Morning Worship—10:30 AM.

Call to Worship:^{*} “*O God, Our Help in Ages Past*” (#48, v. I).

Invocation.*

Hymn: “*Praise Him, All Ye Little Children*” (#435).

Prayer for Tithes & Offerings.

Scripture Reading: Genesis 12:1-9.

Prayer, Praises, and Testimony.

Hymn: “*Dwelling in Beulah Land*” (#198).

Announcements.

Hymn: “*God Leads us Along*” (#432).

Dismissal of Youth for Children’s Church.

Greeting One Another.

Message: “*THE RIDDLE OF ANTISEMITISM, PART II.*”

Closing Hymn:^{*} “*God is so Good*” (#433; vv. 1, 2, 4).

Benediction.*



*The Congregation will please arise, if able.



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YouTube Channel: [@terryreese1376](#); rumble Channel: [TerryReese](#)



Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study: 6:30 PM



WEEK 14 OF JAN. 7 – JAN. 14

Sunday School—4; Morning Worship—10;

Midweek—No Service; Weekly Offering—\$329.00

Mark Twain, on the Mystery of Jewish Longevity

(From *Concerning the Jews*; Harper's Magazine, 1898)

If the statistics are right, the Jews constitute but one percent of the human race. It suggests a nebulous dim puff of star-dust lost in the blaze of the Milky



Way. Properly the Jew ought hardly to be heard of; but he is heard of, has always been heard of. He is as prominent on the planet as any other people, and his commercial importance is extravagantly out of proportion to the smallness of his bulk. His contributions to the world's list of great names in literature, science, art, music, finance, medicine, and abstruse learning are also away out of proportion to the weakness of his numbers.

He has made a marvelous fight in this world, in all the ages; and has done it with his hands tied behind him. He could be vain of himself, and be excused for it. The Egyptian, the Babylonian, and the Persian rose, filled the planet with sound and splendor, then faded to dream-stuff and passed away; the Greek and the Roman followed, and made a vast noise, and they are gone; other peoples have sprung up and held their torch high for a time, but it burned out, and they sit in twilight now, or have vanished.

The Jew saw them all, beat them all, and is now what he always was, exhibiting no decadence, no infirmities of age, no weakening of his parts, no slowing of his energies, no dulling of his alert and aggressive mind. All things are mortal but the Jew; all other forces pass, but he remains. What is the secret of his immortality?

Cover Art: *"And I will bless them that bless thee,"* by Pastor Terry L. Reese

The Riddle of Antisemitic Persecution

Pastor Terry Reese, Valley GBC of Armagh, PA (01/14/23)

I. The trek of the “Wandering Jew” (a.k.a., the “Eternal Jew”).

A. A Stateless People: the *Diaspora* (i.e., “dispersion”).

The *Times of the Gentiles* (Luke 21:24; cf., Dan. 2 & 7), extend from the Babylonian Conquest until the Second Coming. Despite the reconstitution of a Jewish state (1948), the *Diaspora* prevails.

B. A Persecuted People...

1. **Antiquity** (Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Seleucids, Rome)
2. **The Middle Ages** (both European Christendom & Islam)

3. The Modern World

- a. Modern western Europe (especially Germany)
- b. Eastern Europe (e.g., Russia & the Ukraine)
- c. The Modern Arab/Islamic World
- d. Today's Hard-Left & “Progressives.”

4. The Future: the Antichrist & the Great Tribulation.

C. The *mystery of such unreasonable & undying hatred!*

Note Mark Twain's thesis in his essay for *Harper's* (1898): the Jew is a law-abiding model-citizen with a strong sense of civic & familial responsibility. WHY is he the focus of such hatred?

II. Especially baffling, considering the Jew's **disproportionate level** of contributions to humanity—a *blessing* to all (Gen.12:3)!

>**Foremost:** From the Jews came the Messiah & the Scriptures!

A. The rise of nations & their political development.

(e.g., the British Empire: Benjamin Disraeli, Chaim Weizmann)

B. The “Court Jew” & the development of **modern finance**.

C. Scientific & technological progress & development.

(e.g., Astronomy, Medicine, Physics, Atomic Science, Invention, etc.)

D. Art, culture, and popular entertainment.

III. America & the Jews (cf., Jer. 29:4-7). >A proud tradition of Jewish service the U.S. Armed Forces; 5,000 Jews buried at Arlington.

IV. Why does unreasonable antisemitism continue?

A. God loves Israel (Zech. 2:8)! **Note:** God's love involves disciplinary correction (Heb. 12:6, Deut. 28:15-16, Matt. 27:25, Luke 23:28-30) and the refiner's fire (Isa. 48:10).

B. Satan hates Israel (Rev. 12:13) because of her role within God's redemptive & prophetic program for the ages.

C. God's plan is to **purge, regather, and redeem** Israel in preparation for its role in the Millennial Kingdom (Isa. 2:2, 6:11; Ezek. 20:37; Dan. 12:1; Zech. 12:10, 13:8-9; Rom. 11:26).